



LARC



Volume 48, Number 6

June 2008

President's Message

I sure hope everyone's summer is starting off great. I just got back from Dayton and we had a blast. Roy, NG5X took Nick's place and along with myself, Roland, Patrick, Dr. Pat, and Jim, we all managed to have a great time. As always plenty of the vendors were on hand with new products to show. Notably a new radio from Icom is coming out, the IC-7200. The IC-7700 was the display/operate radio and I managed to sit and make a few CW qso's on it while in front of the Icom main stage. The theme this year seemed to revolve around SDR radios. For those that are not familiar with SDR, it stands for Software Defined Radio. All of the signal processing that normally takes place on the inside of the radio using tubes in the old days, transistors in the past years, and now computer chips today, is being replaced yet again. This time with computer software. These radios use a computer's soundcard as the input, mixes the signals, and out comes the CW or SSB signal you're tuning on. The ham radio landscape is always changing!

I also managed to run into 2 hams from the Monroe area. Mark, K5ER and Scott W5WZ. After a few drinks at the contest suite, we managed to form a contest club, the Louisiana Contest Group. Hopefully this will encompass most of the state, as to qualify for ARRL contest club status, all members must reside within a certain geographical area. We concluded if we put this circle squarely on top of Marksville, we could cover most of the state, all major cities and even parts of Mississippi.

(continued on page 2 column 2)

Lafayette Train Derailment Releases Toxic Fumes Mandatory Evacuations Ordered

Around 2:30 AM Saturday May 17 a train derailment in Lafayette, LA called for action from the Lafayette Parish ARES. This derailment consisted of 6 tanker cars; three of the rail cars ended up on their sides. The derailment site was on Ambassador Caffery near the Cameron intersection at the overpass. One overturned car containing hydrochloric acid sprung a leak and spilled 8,000 to 10,000 gallons on the ground causing a plume to rise. The other two overturned cars contained ethylene oxide and one contained alcohol, no leaks on these two.

A mandatory evacuation of 3,000 plus within a one mile perimeter was ordered as a result of the derailment. The evacuees were asked to stay with friends, or a motel if possible. The Red Cross set up a shelter at Carencro High School gym to take in those that did not have anywhere else to turn.

At approximately 7:30 AM, Ed Roy WA5TNK - Lafayette Parish EC called on the ARES group and any other amateur radio operators to man the Command Post set up by the Lafayette EOC, located on I-10 and Ambassador Caffery at the old "Sam's" store and someone to set up communications at the Red Cross shelter. Ed WA5TNK and Dags KE5CGN manned the Command Post and Dick WA6MDI, Glenn KD5NVC and XYL Linda KE5HSY, and Herman KN5GRK manned the Red Cross shelter using a handi-talkie, magnet mount antenna, power supply and hand microphone, this system worked just fine. John Martin KA5BSE operated from his QTH and coordinated in getting all the hams lined up for this job, gave directions to the sites, and road closure information to other amateurs.

No formal NTS traffic was handled during this event, but informal traffic such as telephone numbers and head count were passed back and forth. One incident happened where we assisted in locating a lost person that was moved from a nursing home to one of the local hospitals.



Herman KN5GRK operating from the Red Cross shelter.

At 5:10 PM, the Command Post released all amateur radio operators and placed them on standby in case the situations changed during the night.

Jackie, from New Iberia with the Red Cross, was very impressed with our "ham radio" and made it known to me that they appreciated all of our assistance and asked if we would be willing to help if New Iberia had such a situation where our assistance might be needed. The reply was: "Yes, just give us a call!". I gave her my card with my name, telephone number, and e-mail address to her.

Herman Campbell KN5GRK
Lafayette Parish Assistant EC

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday June 5, 2008 - 7 PM
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
VE Testing @ 6:00 PM - Door Prizes

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Ozone Amateur Radio Club
July 19, 2008—Slidell, LA

Local 2-Meter Nets

Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA
Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
145.370 - 600 PL 103.5
YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only 1:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2008-2009

President - Charlie Morrison KI5XP
ki5xp@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres - Dick Melcher WA6MDI

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

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Herman Campbell KN5GRK

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Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

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each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

President's Message (continued from page 1 column 1)

If you're interested in this, please let me know. We aim to show some pride for Louisiana during the contesting season, and we may even manage to win a few!

This Thursday's June 5th meeting will be another short and sweet one, but we do need to discuss field day. If I don't get any suggestions or requests, we'll probably set it up like last year, one CW station and one SSB station. I hate to call on all those who perform the same jobs each time, but we'll be down at least 2 people without our anchor-man John and our satellite guy Nick. Lets see if we can play a good field day this year!

73

Charlie KI5XP

May Club Meeting Highlights

The May 1st meeting was held at the Red Cross Building with a attendance of 27 showing up.

The membership approved the 2008-2009 budget set by the board meeting. Charlie KI5XP agreed to be the Field Day chairperson again this year. Field Day will again be held at the Gossen Memorial Park (Rayne Civic Center) in Rayne, LA under the large pavilion that we used last year.

Jim Barron WB5AAA donated a potato gun to the club to be used for shooting tennis balls with a line over trees and other obstructions. It is made of PVC pipe and used propane to fire the ball. Jim also brought a 1978 brochure of the Lafayette Club hamfest. Our club president, Charlie KI5XP, read it aloud to the membership which brought a lot of laughs and memories of days gone by. Refreshments were served.

May VE Test Sessions

The May 1st General Meeting of the AARA had the following upgrades:

Courtney C. Roy WA5ROY upgraded from Technician to General.

Donald D. Thrasher KE5QZH upgraded from Technician to General.

The VE's for this session were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH
Albert Fabacher KF5WP
Rick Breaux N5RLM
Charles Morrison KI5XP
Ward Tilly NG5T

—O—

The following persons tested at the Children's Museum of Acadiana on May 8th and the results are:

Harold B. Beckler of Lafayette passed Technician and has the call **KE5UPL**.

Ruben S. Bienvenu of St. Martinville passed Technician and has the call **KE5UPJ**.

Allen E. Pringle of Lafayette passed Technician and General and now has the call **KE5UPM**.

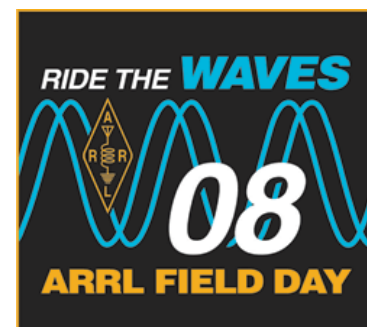
Irma L. Bookter of Scott passed Technician and now has call **KE5UPK**.

The VE's for this session were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH
Roland Guidry NA5Q
Rick Breaux N5LRM
Greg Dolan K5LFT

ARRL FIELD DAY

June 28th & 29th





Lafayette Salvation Army received check from AARA

Major John Queener KD5OJT (l.) of the Lafayette Salvation Army is presented a check by Herman Campbell KN5GRK (r.) from the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. as part of their yearly contribution to charitable organizations such as the Salvation Army.

This check will help the Salvation Army carry on their work by helping other who are in need in this area. The Salvation Army provides food, shelter, and clothing to the homeless. In time of emergency or disaster, when homes and families are torn apart, the Salvation Army provides necessities such as furniture, clothing, and counseling to get them back on their feet.

By the way, you may not know, but the Salvation Army in Lafayette has its own radio station and club call which is K5LSA. They have a Icom 2200H 2 meter base and a Icom 735 hf transceiver. With hurricane season right around the corner (June 1st), this station may see some action, although we hope not!

Salvation Army Update

It was publicly announced during our Salvation Army Church Service on Sunday May 11th that Major John & Linda Queener of the Lafayette Salvation Army are being relocated to Orange, Texas to take command of the Salvation Army there. The move will take place on June 22nd. John KC5OJT will be greatly missed as we will be losing a fellow ham radio operator, maybe he will keep in touch with us via "ham radio".

Replacing Major Queener will be Captain Jon-Phil Winter, age 30, single and from the United Kingdom. He is not a ham radio operator which will give us something to work on during his command here. I am sure we will support Captain Winter in the same capacity as Major Queener.

Herman Campbell
KN5GRK
SATERN MEMBER



DOING THE
MOST GOOD™

SkyWarn Activated

The Lafayette SkyWarn system was activated early Thursday morning May 15 at about 0545 due to approaching severe weather. The National Weather Service had issued a Tornado Warning for Lafayette Parish when I signed onto the net at about 0625. John Martin KA5BSE, one of our Lafayette Parish Assistant Emergency Coordinators brought up the net on the 145.37 SkyWarn repeater at 0540 and numerous stations had already checked in when the line of thunderstorms moved through Lafayette Parish.

In my opinion, this damage was caused by a straight line wind in excess of 85 mph or possible a EF-1 tornado. There was no noticeable temperature drop with this severe weather event as you might expect with a down burst wind. Although I did not hear the traditional wind rush normally associated with a tornado, it is possible that some cyclonic winds were present. Most of the damage was located in the Bendel Gardens and the Oil Center area in Lafayette.

The damage field is generally oriented along a West to East Line and extends for about 1000 meters along that axis.

Pictures taken by Ed WA5TNK of the damage can be found at the following website:

<http://www.edroy.com/gallery/Storm/>

The amateur radio operators reporting their area weather observations to the Parish EOC and KA5BSE were:

Ken KD5YWB, Mike KE5AWZ, Tim N5RKK, Herman KN5GRK, David KE5NIJ, Gary K5EOD, Don NJ5X, Greg AD5HA, Terry N5SXS, Joe W5XJF, Jim N5NVP, and Chris KD5QYV.

Ed Roy WA5TNK
Lafayette Parish EC
May 15, 2008

(see page 5 column 2 for more)

ARLB009 FCC Looks to Raise Vanity Call Sign Fees

The FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (NPRM) on May 8 seeking to raise fees for Amateur Radio vanity call signs. Currently, a vanity call sign costs \$11.70 and is good for 10 years; the new fee, if the FCC plan goes through, will go up to \$12.30 for 10 years, an increase of \$.60.

The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. Instructions on how to comment on this NPRM are available on the FCC Web site at:

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/howtocomment.html>.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 12 years of the current program -- from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50; the current fee of \$11.70 is the lowest the fee has been since the inception of the vanity call sign program. The FCC said it anticipates some 15,000 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$184,500 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal two years ago. Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS site at, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>, and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

NNNN

June 2008 Special Events & Contests

June 6 - 8	W2W - D-Day Commemoration, Linthicum, MD *
June 7 & 8	NB9QB - WWII Submarine USS Cobia on the air. Manitowoc, WI
June 7 & 8	NI6IW - USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, Commemorating International Museum Ship Weekend, San Diego, CA
June 13 & 14	W0S - Commemorating 147 years of the Stars & Stripes Newspaper, June VHF QSO Party 1800Z Saturday thru 0300z Monday.
June 14 - 16	K5T - National Railway Historical Society 2008 Convention, Fort Worth/Dallas, TX
June 17 - 22	NI6IW - USS Midway CV-41 Museum Radio Room, Commemorating ARRL Field Day, San Diego, CA
June 28 & 29	Operator W0SO , K0S , Field Day from the highest point in Kansas, Sunflower, KS

- = Certificate available

Check the June 2008 issue of QST page 98 for more listings of Special Events or the ARRL website at:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/spev.html>



6/1	JOHN	W4JHC
6/5	KAREN	KE5RPI
6/6	MARK	KE5NTW
6/13	LEE	WB5NJG
6/16	BRUCE	KE5RUM
6/22	GAYLE	KE5RPN



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The AARA would like to welcome the following new members.

If you hear these persons on the air, please give them your own "personal" welcome to our area.

Ashton Langlinais **WE5WOW**
Dave Pierce **N5OB**

HELP KEEP AMATEUR RADIO ALIVE IN ACADIANA!

FATHER's DAY Sunday June 15

HURRICANE "MIKE" SIMULATION NET

The "Hurricane Mike Drill" for Lafayette area ham radio operators was held on schedule Thursday, May 8th between 2 and 3:12 PM. This was primarily a check of patient movement for hospital evacuation. The NET included several area hospitals, ambulance, and emergency units.

From the hospital side, we accomplished several of our goals:

1. Checking into the net via VHF 2 meter amateur radio.
2. Transfer messages between hospitals - Several messages were passed, but not all hospitals had messages ready to send to other hospitals.
3. Transferred routine and priority (Test) Traffic to the EOC. Ed Roy, WA5TNK Lafayette Parish Emergency Coordinator, manned the EOC radio as KA5EOC.
4. As an added bonus, we had Emergency Coordinators from Lafayette, Acadia, and Vermillion parishes check into the net.
5. Generated a report on NET ACTIVITIES which were sent to all agencies involved upon request including the ARRL Louisiana Section Emergency Coordinator Jim Coleman AI5B.
6. Herman, KN5GRK for the service you provided in calling the net and the excellent report.

As usual, the local Amateur Radio operators checked in to make their services available during the test. NOTE: Several people checking in were mobile or using portable equipment. This would be of great benefit in a real emergency since they would be capable of operating at the needed staging locations where communications may not always be available. Thanks to all who participated.

As before, if you know of anyone at the hospitals who have a ham license, pass this information to them and have them join our distribution list. The HEAL NET with local and area hospitals meet on the first and third Friday of each month at 1:00 PM on the 146.820 repeater in Lafayette for radio checks and NET practice.

The net ran one hour and twelve minutes with eighteen stations checking in and six emergency agencies represented and four pieces of formal traffic handled during this time. Some of those checking in had some questions in proper message handling and routing which were answered by the more experienced in this field. This was a very productive simulation.

Larry James LeBlanc KE5KJD
University Medical Center
Lafayette, Louisiana

HEAL NET

Be sure to check in on the HEAL NET every 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 1:00 PM local time on the 146.820 repeater in Lafayette. Larry KE5KJD is our Net Control Station at this time but will appreciate anyone wishing to help out as NCS on occasions.

May 2008 HEAL Net Report

DATE:	Medical Personnel	Guest	Medical Facilities	Time / Traffic
5/02/08	4	6	4	16 min/ 0
5/16/08	4	6	4	18 min/ 0

Board Meeting Results

A meeting of the AARA Board Members met on April 29, 2008 at 6:00 PM at the QTH of Charlie Morrison KI5XP (our President) to discuss the club budget for year 2008-2009. The new budget was presented at the May 1st meeting and passed by the membership. Other topics included what to do with the pneumatic tower, 3 sections of Rohn 25 tower from Charlie Cross KD5FES (now a SK) estate, and the Onan generator donated by the Red Cross. It was agreed that they be put up for sale at a later date.

Those that attended the meeting were: Charlie KI5XP, Dick WA6MDI, Sandy KE5KJF, Joy N5YCS, Rick N5RLM, and Herman KN5GRK.

SkyWarn Activation

The Lafayette SkyWarn Network was activated on May 28th at 17:09 hrs local to deal with a severe thunderstorm warning and a flash flood warning. The following stations checked in:

KN5GRK, KE4GQE, KE5OGA, KN5LSU, K5EOD, N5NVP, KE5AWZ, KA5BSE, KE5UPK and mobile station passing through AB9PR/M Derrick.

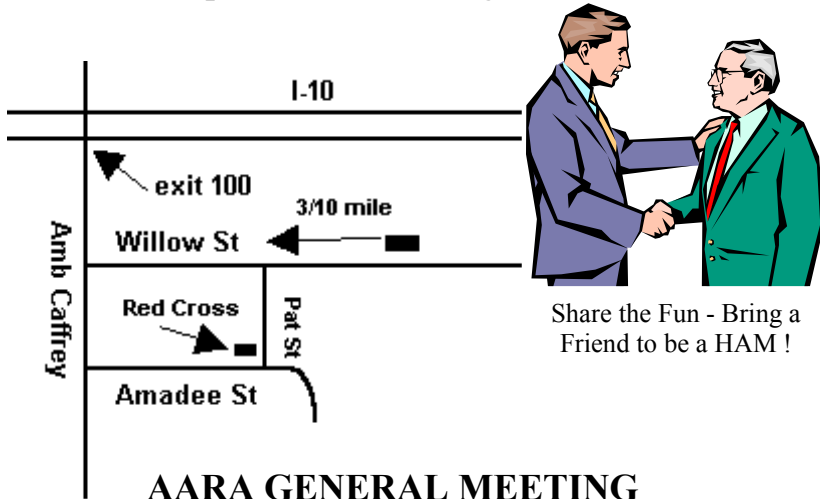
Ten (10) stations checked in to the directed net. The net was secured at 18:32 hrs local.

Ed Roy
Lafayette Parish EC



Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a
Friend to be a HAM !

AARA GENERAL MEETING
Thursday June 5, 2008—7:00 PM
VE Testing at 6:00 PM
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA
Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

Shrimp Po Boy

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 to 1 1/2 pounds medium boiled shrimp (from 6 to 10 shrimp for each roll, depending on size) | 1 tomato, sliced |
| 2 cups milk | * flour |
| 1 egg | * cornmeal or fine bread crumbs |
| 1/8 tsp salt | * dash pepper |
| 6 sub rolls, split | * lettuce leaves |
| | * mayonnaise |

PREPARATION:

Mix milk with egg; add shrimp and let stand for 3 minutes. Mix equal parts of flour and cornmeal or bread crumbs with salt and pepper. Coat shrimp well with mixture. Cook shrimp in hot deep fat at 375° until golden brown.

Drain on paper towels.

Spread split rolls with mayonnaise. Arrange shrimp on rolls; top with tomato slices and lettuce. Serves 6.

Send your favorite recipe to:
Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscmm@fcc.gov. Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245